

53122 to 53175—Continued.**53174. TORRESIA ODORATA (L.) Hitchc. Poaceæ.****Holy grass.**

Holy grass, vanilla grass, or Seneca grass, native to Canada and the northern United States. It is sweet scented owing to the presence of coumarin. The Indians use the grass to make fragrant baskets.

Received as *Hierochloe odorata*, which is now referred to *Torresia odorata*.

53175. TROLLIUS EUROPAEUS L. Ranunculaceæ.**Globeflower.**

A hardy herbaceous perennial 15 inches high, with lemon-yellow globular flowers 1 to 2 inches in diameter. Native to wet upland meadows of northern Europe.

53176. DIOSPYROS CONZATTII Standl. Diospyraceæ. Persimmon.

From Cerro Espino, Oaxaca, Mexico. Seeds presented by P. C. Standley, United States National Museum. Received May 16, 1921.

"*Zapote negro montés*, collected at Cerro Espino, April, 1921, by Prof. C. Conzatti. The fruit is said to be better than that of *Diospyros ebenaster*." (Standley.)

A tree of particular interest on account of the exquisite flavor of its edible fruit, 4 centimeters in diameter and 2 centimeters long. In quality it is comparable with the *chico-zapote* (*Achras zapota*). It is green skinned and much smaller than the common black sapote. Propagation of this magnificent tree is relatively simple on account of its vigor and the altitude at which it thrives, 1,000 meters above sea level. (Adapted from *Boletín de la Dirección de Estudios Biológicos*, vol. 2, No. 3, p. 316.)

53177 to 53217.

From Ecuador. Collected by Wilson Popenoe, Agricultural Explorer of the Department of Agriculture. Received April 6, 1921. Quoted notes by Mr. Popenoe.

53177. BERBERIS QUINDUENSIS H. B. K. Berberidaceæ.**Barberry.**

"(No. 585a, Hacienda La Esperanza, near El Angel, Province of Carchi, Ecuador. February 15, 1921.) Seeds of *Espino*. A very pretty species of *Berberis*, similar to one obtained in Cundinamarca. From the mountains of Carchi Province, at about 12,000 feet elevation. This is one of the handsomest wild barberries I have seen in Ecuador. It makes an arborescent shrub up to 10 or 12 feet high, and has large, glossy, stiff, dark-green leaves. The flowers, which are produced in racemes about 3 inches long, are orange-yellow and half an inch broad. They are followed by small clusters of oval, blue-black fruits. The species is worthy of a trial in the southern United States, where it may prove to be of value as an ornamental."

53178. ONOSERIS SALICIFOLIA H. B. K. Asteraceæ.

"(No. 582a, Conraqui, near Ibarra, Ecuador. February 10, 1921.) Seeds of a low-growing, delicate plant which is abundant on dry rocky slopes in northern Ecuador at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 feet. It rarely surpasses 8 inches in height; the lively pink, daisylike flowers, about 2 inches broad, are borne on slender stems rising a few inches above the foliage. It flowers profusely and is recommended for trial as a border plant in the United States. It can probably be cultivated as an annual, though here it is, I believe, at least a biennial and probably a perennial."

53179. CHUQUIRAGA INSIGNIS Humb. and Bonpl. Asteraceæ.

"(No. 587a, Hacienda La Rinconada, Province of Carchi, Ecuador. February 15, 1921.) Seeds of *Chuquiragua*, from the páramo at an altitude of about 12,000 feet in Carchi Province. This plant, abundant on the high páramos of Ecuador, is said to have been sacred to the Incas. It is an unusually handsome thing and seems to me worthy of cultivation in other countries as an ornamental. It is a slender, half-shrubby plant, stiffly erect in habit, and reaching to 6 feet in height.